GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2178
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2001
ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that animal skins and bones are transported to the capital in tourist buses from various States for distributing it throughout the country and abroad as reported in the Hindustan Times dated October 13, 2001;

(b) if so, the details and facts thereof;

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to enact any law to ban the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a)&(b)A few years back an offender was apprehended by the Delhi Administration while alighting from a bus with wild animals skins. The offender has been convicted by the Court. No specific case regarding wild animals skin being brought to Delhi through tourist buses have come to notice of the Central Government.

(c) A provision has been made in Section 48(A) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for taking legal action against the persons indulging in transportation of illegally procured wildlife products.

(d)&(e) Trade in endangered species of wildlife and its products is completely prohibited under the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.